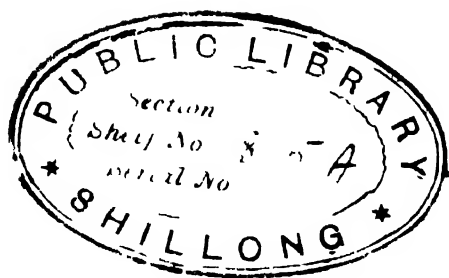


TWO VAGABONDS IN LANGUEDOC



BY THE SAME AUTHORS

MODERN FRENCH PAINTERS

POOR FOLK IN SPAIN

TWO VAGABONDS IN THE BALKANS

MISADVENTURES WITH A DONKEY
IN SPAIN

**TWO VAGABONDS IN
LANGUEDOC** A Portrait
Group in Prose by **JAN GORDON
& CORA J. GORDON.** Illustrated
by the Authors

090
GORDON

"Note but the plain husbandman or the unwily shoemaker and you see them simply and naturally plod on their course, speaking only of what they know, and no further."—MONTAIGNE.

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TO
HERMINE AND FRITZ VANDERPYL
IN RECOGNITION OF OUR LONG-
STANDING FRIENDSHIP

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TWO VAGABONDS IN LANGUEDOC

I

OUR LAST BREAKFAST IN UPPER LANGUEDOC

HERE is an attempt to make a portrait, or rather a collective portrait, like one of those pictured corporations by an old Flemish master. Here is a portrait of the French village of Janac in Upper Languedoc, taken from the door of the Hôtel Sestrol. You will perceive in the centre the figures of Monsieur and Madame Sestrol and their son Raymond; grouped about them are the baker, the blacksmith, the shoemaker, the *épicier*-cobbler, the ex-American soldier, the mad priest, the *garde champêtre*, the *juge de paix*, etc., fading into a mass of villagers and peasantry, some suggested, others merely indicated. The picture, admittedly, suffers from the disadvantages of the portrait—it is seen from one angle only and in one lighting.

Our friend Boanerges, well-known art critic and gastronome of Paris, has the queer hobby of collecting himself in facsimile from the hands of all his painter friends. These portraits he hangs regimented in his study, a dozen presentments overlook the original at his work: a dozen Boanerges frown; smile; look indifferent, self-satisfied, absorbed or reflective upon the Boanerges who is grumbling over his manuscript. Of these many portraits all resemble the